Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 014627 ORIGIN EUR-12

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INFO CSCE COLLECTIVE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, CSCE, MPOL

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON SOVIET MANEUVER INVITATION

REF: STATE 13272

1. FOLLOWING FYI IS PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED ON SOVIET MILITARY EXERCISE INVITATION:

Q: WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE INVITED THE US, UK, FRANCE, FRG, AND BENELUX TO ATTEND A MILITARY MANEUVER THIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FEBRUARY. DOES THE US INTEND TO ACCEPT?

A: WE HAVE INDEED RECEIVED OVER THE WEEKEND AN INVITATION TO A SOVIET EXERCISE. AS IS WELL KNOWN, THE US BELIEVE THAT THE NOTIFICATION OF AND INVITATION OF OBSERVES TO, MILITARY MANEUVERS IS A VERY IMPORTANT PART OF CSCE. THIS WOULD BE THE FIFTH EXERCISE OF WHICH THE SOVIETS HAVE GIVEN

NOTIFICATION AND THE FIRST TO WHICH WE HAVE BEEN INVITED. THE INVITATION BY THE USSR IS MOST WELCOME. AS IS OUR PRACTICE IN ALL CSCE/CBM MATTERS, WE WILL CONSULT WITH OUR ALLIES CONCERNING OUR REPLY, WHICH WILL BE MADE TO THE SOVIETS THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS.

Q: BUT, DO YOU EXPECT TO ACCEPT?

A: ON BACKGROUND. IT IS A FAIR ASSUMPTION THAT WE WILL RESPOND FAVORABLY.

Q: WHAT LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION WILL YOU SEND?

A: ON BACKGROUND. THAT WILL BE ONE ASPECT OF CONSULTATION WITH OUR ALLIES.

Q: CAN YOU GIVE US SOME SPECIFICS ABOUT THE MANEUVER?

A: I WOULD REFER YOU TO THE SOVIET EMBASSY FOR THAT.

2. QUESTIONS DID NOT RPT NOT ARISE AT JAN 18 NOON PRESS BRIEFING. CHRISTOPHER

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 14627 ACTION USNATO MOSCOW BELGRADE INFO CSCE COLLECTIVE JAN 19.

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 014627

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FRANCE, FRG, AND BENELUX TO ATTEND A MILITARY MANEUVER THIS FEBRUARY. DOES THE US INTEND TO ACCEPT?

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